Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph spanning page 4, line 30- page 5, line 5, with the following replacement paragraph:

--One embodiment of the invention is a compound of Formula Ia and Ib wherein, R_1 is selected from linear, branched C_1 –C_{12} –alkyl group, or cyclic C_3 –C_{12} – alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups; and R_2 and R_3 are hydrogen.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 11-15, with the following replacement paragraph:

--a) R_1 is a linear or branched C_2 –C_{11} -alkyl group, or cyclic C_3 –C_{11}-alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 17-21, with the following replacement paragraph:

--b) R_1 is a linear, branched or cyclic C_3 –C_{10} –alkyl group, wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 23-27, with the following replacement paragraph:

--c) R_1 is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C_4–C_9–alkyl group, wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups; --

Please replace the paragraph spanning page 5, line 29- page 6, line 3, with the following replacement paragraph:

--d) R_1 is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C_4–C_8–alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 5-9, with the following replacement paragraph:

--e) R_1 is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C_4–C_7–alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_6-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_6** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 11-15, with the following replacement paragraph:

--f) R_1 is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C_1–C_6–alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-C_5-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-C_5** alkylene group or with a phenyl or phenylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group or the phenyl or phenylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups;--

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 17-20, with the following replacement paragraph:

--g) R_1 is selected from linear, branched or cyclic C_4 -alkyl group wherein the linear or branched alkyl group may be substituted or interrupted with a cyclic C_3-alkyl or **cyclic C_3-**alkylene group; and wherein the cyclic alkyl or **cyclic** alkylene group is further substituted by 0, 1, 2, **or** 3 methyl groups.--

Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement Abstract.

--The present invention relates to new salts of omeprazole and esomeprazole respectively, i.e. salts of 5-methoxy-2-[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)-methyl]sulfinyl]-1*H*-benzimidazole and the (*S*)-enantiomer thereof. More specifically, the present invention relates to [~~alkylammoniumsalt~~] **alkylammonium salts** of the compounds, formed by a reaction of omeprazole and esomeprazole respectively and an alkylamine with formula [~~NR?1#191R?2#191R?3#191~~] **$NR_1R_2R_3$**, wherein [~~R?1#191~~] **R_1** is a linear, branched, or cyclic [~~C?1#191-C?12#191~~] **C_1-C_{12}**-alkyl group, [~~R?2#191 and R?3#191~~] **and R_2 and R_3** are hydrogen. The present invention also relates to a process for preparing crystalline salts, a pharmaceutical preparation, and a method for treatment of gastric related disorders by administering the compound of the invention.--